

# ACTIVITY PROGRAMS & PARTICIPATION

The Minnesota State High School League sponsors one of the most comprehensive programs of interscholastic activities in the United States—activities that involve 525 member schools, 316,718 students, 22,197 coaches, and 9,564 contest officials and judges. According to a national survey of 51 state high school athletic/activity associations, Minnesota ranks 10th in the nation in the total number of student athletes. Here's a look at the 43 activity programs offered by League member schools during the 2015-16 school year and the scores of students involved in them.

## ADAPTED BOWLING (CO-ED)

- 46 participating schools (CI)
  - 303 participants
  - 39 participating schools (PI)
  - 103 participants
  - 18 participating schools (ASD)
  - 36 participants
  - 3 Championships
- Nationally:** 133 participating schools  
1,675 participants

## ADAPTED FLOOR HOCKEY (CO-ED)

- 62 participating schools (CI)
  - 257 participants
  - 61 participating schools (PI)
  - 157 participants
  - 2 Championships
- Nationally:** 62 participating schools  
414 participants

## ADAPTED SOCCER (CO-ED)

- 67 participating schools (CI)
  - 206 participants
  - 48 participating schools (PI)
  - 113 participants
  - 2 Championships
- Nationally:** 134 participating schools  
1,366 participants

## ADAPTED SOFTBALL (CO-ED)

- 63 participating schools (CI)
  - 272 participants
  - 52 participating schools (PI)
  - 159 participants
  - 2 Championships
- Nationally:** 128 participating schools  
1,303 participants

**FYI** Minnesota was the first of 12 state high school activity associations to sponsor adapted athletic programs for students with disabilities.

## GIRLS' BADMINTON

- 27 participating schools
  - 607 participants
- Nationally:** 477 participating schools  
12,961 participants

## BASEBALL

- 431 participating schools
  - 13,515 participants
  - 4 Championships
- Nationally:** 15,956 participating schools  
488,815 participants  
(includes girls)

**FYI** Baseball is currently the fourth most popular sport for boys nationwide. It ranks fourth for students in Minnesota.

## BOYS' BASKETBALL

- 470 participating schools
  - 13,542 participants
  - 4 Championships
- Nationally:** 18,280 participating schools  
546,428 participants

**FYI** Basketball is currently the third most popular sport for boys in Minnesota. It ranks third for boys nationwide.

## GIRLS' BASKETBALL

- 457 participating schools
  - 12,012 participants
  - 4 Championships
- Nationally:** 17,890 participating schools  
429,380 participants

**FYI** Nationwide, basketball is the third most popular sport for girls. It's also the third most popular sport for girls in Minnesota.

## BOYS' CROSS COUNTRY RUNNING

- 362 participating schools
  - 7,357 participants
  - 2 Championships
- Nationally:** 14,920 participating schools  
257,691 participants

## GIRLS' CROSS COUNTRY RUNNING

- 360 participating schools
  - 9,065 participants
  - 2 Championships
- Nationally:** 14,698 participating schools  
222,516 participants

**FYI** Nationwide, cross country running is the sixth most popular sport for both girls and boys.

## GIRLS' DANCE TEAM (COMPETITIVE)

- 182 participating schools
- 4,956 participants
- 6 Championships

## FOOTBALL

- 524 participating schools  
(includes 11 and 9 man)
  - 25,650 participants
  - 7 Championships
- Nationally:** 14,312 participating schools  
(11 man and 9 man)  
1,092,658 participants  
(includes girls)

**FYI** Nationwide, football is the most popular sport for boys. It's also the activity involving the most student-athletes in Minnesota.

## BOYS' GOLF

- 376 participating schools
  - 5,556 participants
  - 3 Championships
- Nationally:** 13,503 participating schools  
146,677 participants

**FYI** Nationally, golf ranks in the top 10 most popular sports for boys (9th).

## GIRLS' GOLF

- 364 participating schools
  - 4,204 participants
  - 3 Championships
- Nationally:** 10,046 participating schools  
74,762 participants

## GIRLS' GYMNASTICS

- 197 participating schools
  - 2,595 participants
  - 2 Championships
- Nationally:** 1,535 participating schools  
17,714 participants

**FYI** Minnesota has the highest participation rate in the country.

## BOYS' ICE HOCKEY

- 277 participating schools
  - 5,792 participants
  - 2 Championships
- Nationally:** 1,607 participating schools  
35,155 participants

**FYI** Minnesota has the second highest participation rate in the country.

## GIRLS' ICE HOCKEY

- 245 participating schools
  - 3,761 participants
  - 2 Championships
- Nationally:** 642 participating schools  
9,514 participants

**FYI** Minnesota leads the nation in number of participants.

## BOYS' LACROSSE

- 103 participating schools
  - 3,535 participants
  - 1 Championship
- Nationally:** 2,752 participating schools  
109,522 participants

## GIRLS' LACROSSE

- 98 participating schools
  - 3,773 participants
  - 1 Championship
- Nationally:** 2,572 participating schools  
88,050 participants

**FYI** Lacrosse is the 10th most popular sport for girls nationwide.

## BOYS' ALPINE SKI

- 122 participating schools
  - 1,021 participants
  - 1 Championship
- Nationally:** 7,220 participating schools  
133,470 participants

**FYI** Minnesota has the highest participation rate in the country.

## GIRLS' ALPINE SKI

- 124 participating schools
  - 821 participants
  - 1 Championship
- Nationally:** 542 participating schools  
4,271 participants

**FYI** Nationally, Minnesota has the 2nd highest participation rate.

## BOYS' NORDIC SKI RACING

- 117 participating schools
  - 1,993 participants
  - 1 Championship
- Nationally:** 372 participating schools  
4,407 participants

## GIRLS' NORDIC SKI RACING

- 118 participating schools
  - 2,431 participants
  - 1 Championship
- Nationally:** 369 schools  
4,940 participants

**FYI** Minnesota leads the nation in the number of participants for boys and girls.

## BOYS' SOCCER

- 248 participating schools
  - 9,254 participants
  - 2 Championships
- Nationally:** 12,054 participating schools  
440,322 participants

## GIRLS' SOCCER

- 235 participating schools
  - 8,116 participants
  - 2 Championships
- Nationally:** 11,676 participating schools  
381,529 participants

**FYI** Nationwide, soccer is the fifth most popular sport for boys and fourth for girls.

## GIRLS' FAST-PITCH SOFTBALL

- 412 participating schools
  - 13,029 participants
  - 4 Championships
- Nationally:** 15,304 participating schools  
366,685 participants

**FYI** Fast-pitch softball is the 3rd most popular sport for girls in Minnesota.

A national survey involving 51 state high school associations shows that participation increased for the 27th consecutive year in 2015-16 with a record total of 7.8 million. The survey also reports that boys' participation increased to an all-time high of 4,544,574, while girls' participation reached an all-time record of 3,324,326.

## BOYS' SWIMMING & DIVING

- 159 participating schools
  - 3,772 participants
  - 2 Championships
- Nationally:** 7,220 participating schools  
133,470 participant

## GIRLS' SWIMMING & DIVING

- 203 participating schools
  - 5,813 participants
  - 2 Championships
- Nationally:** 7,559 participating schools  
166,747 participants

**FYI** Nationwide, swimming and diving is the 10th most popular sport for boys and 8th for girls.

## GIRLS' SYNCHRONIZED SWIMMING

- 22 participating schools
  - 432 participants
- Nationally:** 31 participating schools  
612 participants

**FYI** Minnesota, Michigan and Ohio are the only states that sponsor synchronized swimming. Minnesota has the most participants.

## BOYS' TENNIS

- 188 participating schools
  - 4,987 participants
  - 2 Championships
- Nationally:** 9,723 participating schools  
157,201 participants

## GIRLS' TENNIS

- 225 participating schools
  - 6,524 participants
  - 2 Championships
- Nationally:** 10,122 participating schools  
183,800 participants

**FYI** Nationally, tennis ranks in the top 10 most popular sports for both girls (7th) and boys (8th).

## BOYS' TRACK & FIELD

- 434 participating schools
  - 16,896 participants
  - 2 Championships
- Nationally:** 16,547 participating schools  
591,133 participants

**FYI** Track and field is the second most popular sport for boys nationwide and in Minnesota.

## GIRLS' TRACK & FIELD

- 435 participating schools
  - 15,842 participants
  - 2 Championships
- Nationally:** 16,508 participating schools  
485,969 participants

**FYI** Track & field is currently the most popular sport for girls nationwide. It ranks 2nd for girls in Minnesota.

## GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL

- 463 participating schools
  - 16,222 participants
  - 3 Championships
- Nationally:** 15,755 participating schools  
436,309 participants

**FYI** Volleyball is the most popular sport for girls in Minnesota. It ranks second for girls' nationwide.

## WRESTLING

- 346 participating schools
  - 8,154 participants
  - 3 Championships
- Nationally:** 10,685 participating schools  
250,653 participants

**FYI** Wrestling is the 6th most popular sport for boys nationwide.

## CHEERLEADING

- 203 participating schools
- 3,344 participants

## CLAY TARGET

- 200 participating schools
- 10,000 participants

## ROBOTICS

- 208 participating teams
- 4,784 participants
- 1 Championship

**FYI** Minnesota is the first high school association in the country to host a state tournament in Robotics.

## 5 MOST POPULAR SPORTS IN MINNESOTA

	BOYS
1. Football	25,650
2. Track & Field	16,896
3. Basketball	13,542
4. Baseball	13,515
5. Soccer	9,254

  

GIRLS	
1. Volleyball	16,222
2. Track & Field	15,842
3. Fast-Pitch Softball	13,029
4. Basketball	12,012
5. Cross Country	9,065

## FINE ARTS

There were 77,545 students involved in fine arts activities—debate, speech, drama, music, and visual arts during the 2015–2016 school year.

## DEBATE

- 78 participating schools
  - 663 participants
  - 2 Championships
- Nationally:** 26 state high school associations sponsor debate

## ONE ACT PLAY

- 305 participating schools
  - 3,348 participants
  - 2 Championships
- Nationally:** 22 state high school associations sponsor drama

## SPEECH

- 320 participating schools
  - 5,348 participants
  - 2 Championships
- Nationally:** 25 state high school associations sponsor speech events

## VISUAL ARTS

- 224 participating schools
  - 3,619 participants
- Nationally:** Minnesota and South Dakota are the only states that sponsor visual arts

## BAND

- 417 participating schools
- 31,254 participants

## ORCHESTRA

- 215 participating schools
- 3,874 participants

## VOCAL

- 423 participating schools
  - 32,516 participants
- Nationally:** 21 state high school associations sponsor music